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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

001560-387

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)

09/673300

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.  
PCT/JPO0/00876INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE  
16 February 2000PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED  
16 February 1999

## TITLE OF INVENTION

GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN HAVING A GLYCOSYL TRANSFERASE ACTIVITY TO AURONES

## APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Keiko SAKAKIBARA, Yuko FUKUI, Yoshikazu TANAKA, Takaaki KUSUMI, and Takafumi YOSHIKAWA

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and the PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☐ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

## Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:


11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
- ☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:

PCT Notice Informing the Applicant of the Communication of the International Application to the Designated Offices (Form PCT/IB/308)

Cover page of published PCT international application (Publication No. WO 00/49155)

PCT Request Form(Japanese)

Sequence Listing (attached to Preliminary Amendment)

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.53) <b>09-673300</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/JP00/00876</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>001560-387</b>	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:				<b>CALCULATIONS</b>	PTO USE ONLY
<b>Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):</b>  Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$1,000.00 (960)  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$860.00 (970)  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$710.00 (958)  International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$690.00 (956)  International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$100.00 (962)					
<b>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</b>					
Surcharge of \$130.00 (154) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	12 -20 =	0	X\$18.00 (966)	\$	
Independent Claims	1 -3 =	0	X\$80.00 (964)	\$	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00 (968)	\$	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				\$	860.00
Reduction for 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$	
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>				\$	860.00
Processing fee of \$130.00 (156) for furnishing the English translation later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>				\$	860.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (581) per property +				\$	40.00
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>				\$	900.00
				Amount to be: refunded	\$
				charged	\$
<p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>900.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b></p> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p>Ronald Grudziecki BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER &amp; MATHIS, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">         SIGNATURE        Donna M. Meuth        NAME        36,607        REGISTRATION NUMBER     </div> <p>Date: <u>October 16, 2000</u></p>					

09/673300  
529 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 OCT 2000

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 001560-387

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
 )  
Keiko SAKAKIBARA et al ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
 )  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Corresponding to PCT/JP00/00876 )  
 )  
Filed: October 16, 2000 )  
 )  
For: GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN )  
HAVING A GLYCOSYL TRANSFER- )  
ASE ACTIVITY TO AURONES )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.823(a), please insert the attached copy of the "Sequence Listing" after page 19 and before the claims of the instant application, and renumber the pages accordingly.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 5, 7, 9 and 12 as follows:

5. (Amended) A vector comprising a gene according to [any one of the claims 1 to 4] claim 1.

7. (Amended) A protein encoded by a gene according to [any one of the claims 1 to 4] claim 1.

9. (Amended) A plant into which a gene according to [any one of the claims 1 to 4] claim 1 has been introduced, and a progeny and a tissue thereof having the same property as said plant.

12. (Amended) A method of stabilizing auronones in the plant body which method comprises introducing the gene according to [any one of the claims 1-4] claim 1 into the plant body, allowing said gene to be expressed, and using the protein produced therein to transfer a glycosyl group to auronones in the plant body.

#### **REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing and examination of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

The paper copy of the Sequence Listing for the subject application, is by this amendment, added after page 19 and before the claims of the instant application. Please renumber the pages accordingly.

Claims 5, 7, 9 and 12 have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependency of the claims. New claims 12-20 have been added, directed to preferred embodiments of the invention. These claims are supported by the original claims 1-11. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Early and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Application No. Unassigned  
Attorney's Docket No. 001560-387

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney by telephone so that prosecution would be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:

  
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Date: October 16, 2000

2/PATS.

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- 1 -

## DESCRIPTION

### GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN HAVING A GLYCOSYL TRANSFERASE ACTIVITY TO AURONES

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#### Technical Field

The present invention relates to a gene encoding a protein having a glycosyl transferase activity to aurones, said protein, and the uses thereof.

10

#### Background Art

The color of flowers are mainly based on three pigments: flavonoids, carotenoids, and betalains. Yellow colors are mostly derived from carotenoids and betalains, but in some plants they are derived from flavonoids. Among the flavonoid pigments, major pigments that are thought to be associated with the development of yellow flowers are divided into three groups: chalcones, aurones, and yellow flavonols (Saito, Biohorti 1, pp. 49-57, 1990)

20

Aurones are substances in which two phenyl groups are joined together through three carbon atoms of dihydrofuran. As aurones, there are known 4,6,4'-trihydroxy aurone, aureusidin, sulfuretin, bracteatin, and the like. For example, aureusidin and bracteatin are contained in snapdragons, aureusidin is contained in limoniums, aureusidin is contained in morning glories, sulfuretin is contained in dahlias, bracteatin is contained in Helichrysum bracteatum, and sulfuretin is contained in Helianthus tuberosus.

30

Flavonoids have generally been modified by acylation, glycosilation, methylation and the like, and carotenoids and betalains have also been glycosilated in many cases. Among various modifications, glycosilation plays an important role in the color of flowers such as (1) contribution to enhancing the stability and solubility of pigments, (2) the presence as a step

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preceding acylation that greatly affects the hue of colors, and (3) copigmentation effects by the glycosilated flavonoids, and the like.

5 It has been reported that, in snapdragon, a yellow pigment aurones (aureusidin, bracteatin), a kind of flavonoid, is present in a glycosilated at its position 6 corresponding to position 7 of flavonoids, and since aurones are present as glycosides in other aurone-containing plants as well, it has been considered that  
10 glycosilation is essential for the stability of aurones.

There are many reports on the genes for glycosyl transferases derived from plants that transfer a glycosyl group to flavonoids and on the activities of those enzymes.

15 By way of example, genes encoding UDP-glucose: flavonoid 3-glucosyl transferases (3GT) that transfer a glycosyl group to the position 3 of flavonoids have been obtained from many plants including corn, barley, and snapdragon, and has been analyzed in detail (The  
20 Flavonoids: Advanced in Research Since 1986. Published by Chapman & Hall, 1993).

Also, genes encoding UDP-glucose: flavonoid 5-glucosyl transferases (5GT) that transfer a glycosyl group to the position 5 of flavonoids have been cloned  
25 from perillas, torenias, and verbenas (International Patent Publication No. WO 99/05287).

However, as to the gene encoding UDP-glucose: flavonoid 7-glucosyl transferase (7GT) that transfers a glycosyl group to the position 7 of flavonoids, there is  
30 only one report on the purification of flavanone-specific 7-glucosyl transferase in grapefruits (Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics 282, 1: 50-57, 1990).

With regard to enzymes that transfer a glycosyl group to the position 6 of aurones, there is a report on  
35 the measurement of a reaction that transfers a glycosyl group to the position 6 of sulfuretin, a kind of aurone (Plant Science 122: 125-131, 1997), but this only studied

the enzymatic property using a partially purified product, and has not been purified in a pure form.

On the other hand, there is a report on the isolation of a glycosyl transferase, pS.b UFGT1, that has an activity of transferring glucose to the position 7 of baicaleins, a kind of flavone, from the hairy roots of a Labuatae, Scutellaria baicalensis (1997, presented at the Fifteenth annual meeting of Japanese Society of Plant Cell and Molecular Biology). The gene product is also reported to be capable of transferring a glycosyl group to the position 7 of anthocyanidins and flavonols, but not reported on aurones (presented at the Fifteenth annual meeting of Japanese Society of Plant Cell and Molecular Biology).

As genes having a high homology to pS.b UFGT1, tobacco-derived IS10a and IS5a have been reported (Plant Molecular Biology, 31: 1061-1072, 1996), but its activity of transferring a glycosyl group to position 7 (7GT activity) has not been studied.

Reports to date teach that the glycosyl transferases that use flavonoids as substrates have a great variation in substrate specificity even among flavonoids. For example, when the gene of flavonoid-3-glycosyl transferase derived from gentians were cloned, expressed in E. coli, and the activity was determined, it was found to exhibit a 61% activity to cyanidins, a 38% activity to pelargonidins, and a good activity to anthocyanins relative to a 100% glycosyl transferase activity to delphinidins. On the other hand, it only shows an activity of 7.0%, 6.5%, and 4.4% to kaempferol, quercetin, and myricetin, respectively. Furthermore, it does not transfer a glycosyl group to dihydroflavonols (Tanaka et al., Plant Cell Physiol. 37: 711, 1996).

Also, when the gene of flavonoid-3-glycosyl transferase derived from grapes was cloned and the activity was determined in E. coli, its Km was 30  $\mu$ M and Vmax was 905 nkatals/mg to cyanidins, whereas to



quercetins the Km was 15  $\mu$ M and Vmax was 18.9 nkatal/mg, exhibiting a great difference in reaction rates (Ford et al., J. Biol. Chem. 273: 9224, 1998).

5 These reports indicate that glycosyl transferases can distinguish the kinds of flavonoids and that the glycosyl transferase activity to a flavonoid does not readily permit the estimation of the glycosyl transferase activity to another flavonoids.

#### 10 Disclosure of the Invention

As hereinabove described, glycosyl transferases using flavonoids as substrates have a great variation in substrate specificity and the estimation of a glycosyl transferase activity to a specific flavonoid cannot be easily made based on known glycosyl transferases.

15 Thus, the present inventors have attempted to obtain a gene encoding a protein having a glycosyl transferase activity to aurones among the flavonoid pigments, and thereby have completed the present invention.

20 The present inventors have demonstrated that a gene product of the pS.b UFGT1 gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, and, using this gene as a probe, have obtained a gene encoding a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones from snapdragons (Antirrhinum majus).

25 Also, using said gene obtained from snapdragons (Antirrhinum majus) as a probe, the present inventors have further obtained two genes encoding a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones from a petunia (Petunia hybrida).

30 Thus, the present invention provides a gene encoding a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones. Furthermore, the present invention provides a gene encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 and having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to

aurones.

5 The present invention further provides a gene encoding a protein that has an amino acid sequence modified by the addition, deletion and/or substitution with other amino acids of one or more amino acids in the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

10 The present invention further provides a gene encoding a protein that hybridizes to a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 or a portion thereof under a stringent condition, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

15 The present invention also provides a vector comprising said gene.

The present invention further provides a host transformed with said vector. The host may be a microorganism, plant cells, animal cells, or plants.

20 The present invention also provides a method of producing a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, by culturing, cultivating or breeding said host.

25 The present invention also provides a method of stabilizing aurones in the plant, said method comprising introducing said gene into the plant having aurones, allowing said gene to be expressed, and transferring a glycosyl group to aurones in the plants with a protein thus produced.

30 In cases where a new flower color is to be created by introducing and expressing the gene of an aurone synthase in plants that have no aurones, aurones can be stably expressed therein by expressing the gene obtained by the present invention.

35

#### Brief Description of Drawings

Figure 1 shows a process of constructing the plasmid

pESBGT-1.

Figure 2 shows a process of constructing the plasmid pETAmGT1.

5      Embodiments for Carrying out the Invention

First, a cDNA library is prepared from the petals of a yellow snapdragon. The cDNA library thus obtained is screened using pS.b UFGT1, a flavonoid-7-glycosyl transferase gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis,  
10      and then a clone is obtained. The plasmid obtained from the clone is isolated and its nucleotide sequence is determined.

It is known that enzymatically active proteins have regions essential for the enzymatic activity and regions  
15      non-essential for the activity, and that the enzymatic activity is retained even when the non-essential regions are modified by the addition, deletion and/or substitution with other amino acids of one or more amino acids. Thus, the present invention encompasses not only  
20      a protein having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, but also a protein having an amino acid sequence modified by the addition, deletion and/or substitution with other amino acids of one or more amino acids in the amino acid sequence as set forth in  
25      SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, and that having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, and a gene encoding said protein.

The number of amino acids to be modified is, for example, 50 or less, and preferably 30 or less, for  
30      example 20 or less or 10 or less.

The gene encoding the protein having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 can be obtained as cDNA or genomic DNA from snapdragons or petunias. The method of cloning cDNA is specifically  
35      described in Examples 2, 3 and 6. In order to obtain genomic DNA, a genomic library is constructed based on the standard method from snapdragons or petunias and then

screened using said cDNA or a fragment thereof according to the standard method.

5 A gene encoding a protein having an amino acid sequence modified in the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 can be constructed by modifying a nucleotide sequence of a DNA, for example cDNA, encoding a protein having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, by a standard method for manipulating genes such as site-directed mutagenesis and  
10 the PCR method.

Once a gene encoding a protein having the enzymatic activity has been cloned, the nucleic acid that hybridizes to said gene or a portion thereof encodes, in most cases, an amino acid sequence that exhibits the  
15 enzymatic activity and that is similar to the original protein. Thus the present invention provides a gene that hybridizes to a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 or a portion thereof under a stringent  
20 condition, and that encodes a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

In the above hybridization condition, the washing condition is preferably  $5 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.1% SDS and  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , more preferably  $2 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.1% SDS and  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and more  
25 preferably  $0.1 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.1% SDS and  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

In the above hybridization, when a nucleic acid having a portion of the nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 is used, the length of the nucleic acid is preferably  
30 at least 17 base pairs long, and more preferably at least 100 base pairs long. As target nucleic acids to be hybridized, there can be used nucleic acids prepared from Scutellaria baicalensis, snapdragons, petunias, limoniums, mornig glories, dahlias, Helichrysum  
35 bracteatum, Helianthus tuberosus, and the like, and preferably genomic DNA libraries or cDNA libraries are

used.

The present invention also provides a method of producing the above protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to auronos. The method comprises introducing a vector comprising DNA encoding said protein into a host, culturing or growing said host, and recovering said protein as desired. The host may be host cells or plants, etc.

As the host cells, there can be used prokaryotic cells, particularly bacteria cells such as cells of Escherichia coli, a bacterium belonging to the genus Bacillus such as Bacillus subtilis and Bacillus brevis, lower eukaryotes such as fungi, for example yeast such as a yeast belonging to the genus Saccharomyces, for example Saccharomyces cerevisiae, or filamentous fungi such as the genus Aspergillus, for example Aspergillus oryzae and Aspergillus niger, and the like.

Furthermore, as higher eukaryotic hosts, there can be mentioned insect cells such as cells of silkworm, animal cells such as CHO cells, cultured human cells such as HeLa cells, and the like.

The gene of the present invention may also be expressed in an organism of, for example, a plant and so on.

Vectors comprising the DNA of the present invention, expression vectors in particular, may contain expression regulatory regions, and the expression regulatory regions depend on the host cell. For example, as promoters for bacterial expression vectors, there can be mentioned commonly used promoters such as the trc promoter, the tac promoter, the lac promoter, the T7 promoter and the like; as promoters for yeast expression vectors, there can be used the promoters of the genes of the glycolytic pathway such as glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase promoter, galactokinase promoter, and the like; and as promoters for animal cell expression vectors, viral promoters can be used.

In order to recover proteins having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, methods commonly used for isolation and purification of protein can be used such as liquid chromatography, and affinity chromatography.

With the current state in the art, it is possible to further ligate the cDNA under the control of a constitutive or inducible promoter, and introduced into a plant such as petunia, rose, carnation, chrysanthemum, torenia, verbena, gerbera, tobacco, strawberry, lisianthus, gentian, gladiolus, and tulip in a system utilizing Agrobacterium, particle guns, or electroporation, and to express the gene encoding the protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones in flower petals.

It is expected that in the flower petals in which a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones was expressed, the aurones are glycosylated, and thereby are stabilized. The plants thus obtained can provide flowers having a hue of color that cannot be found in the conventional varieties.

In plants having no aurones, an aurone synthase gene are introduced, expressed, and at the same time a gene of the present invention encoding the protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones can be introduced and expressed, so that aurones can be stably expressed and new plants having a yellow hue can be provided. As the above plants having no aurones, there can be mentioned petunias, torenias, and tobaccos.

#### Examples

The present invention will now be explained in further details with reference to the following Examples.

Example 1. Measurement of the activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones of a product of the pS.b UFGT1 gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis

The activity of the pS.b UFGT1 gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones was determined using an expression vector pESBGT-1 in E. coli prepared by the following method.

5 First, the pS.b UFGT1 gene was subjected to a PCR reaction using two primers to introduce NdeI and BamHI sites.

5'-ATA ACT ACA TAT GGG ACA ACT CCAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:  
3)

10 5'-CAG AAC AGG ATC CAC ACG TAA TTT A-3' (SEQ ID NO:  
4)

The PCR reaction mixture was prepared in a total volume of 50 µl comprising 300 ng of pSBGT-1, 1 × Native Pfu DNA polymerase reaction buffer (Stratagene), 0.2 mM dNTPs, 4 pg/µl each of the primers, and 2.5 U of Native Pfu DNA polymerase. The reaction was carried out, after  
15 3 minutes at 95°C, for 30 cycles with one cycle comprising 95°C for 1 minute, 50°C for 2 minutes, and 72°C for 2 minutes, and finally was treated at 72°C for 7  
20 minutes.

The PCR product was digested with NdeI and BamHI, and then was ligated to the NdeI- and BamHI-digested pET-3a vector (Stratagene) to construct pESBGT-1 (Figure 1). Using each of pESBGT-1 and pET-3a vector, it was  
25 transformed into Epicurian Coli BL21 (DE3) (Stratagene). The transformants were incubated overnight at 37°C in 3 ml of a LB medium containing 50 µg/ml of ampicillin. The preculture (500 µl) was added to 50 ml of a LB medium containing 50 µg/ml of ampicillin, and cultured until  
30 A600 reached 0.6-1.0. Then isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added thereto to a final concentration of 0.5 mM, which was cultured at 28°C for 4 hours and centrifuged (5000 rpm, 10 minutes, 4°C) to collect the cells.

35 The pellets were suspended in 5 ml of the buffer (10

mM sodium phosphate, pH 6.5, 1 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol (2-ME)). After the E. coli cells were disrupted by a sonicator, it was centrifuged (15,000 rpm, 5 minutes, 4°C), and the supernatant obtained was used as a crude enzyme solution for the next enzyme reaction.

In addition to aureusidin, the enzymatic activity was determined using naringenin or luteolin as the substrate.

For aureusidin, the enzymatic activity was determined as follows:

To 50  $\mu$ l of the crude enzyme solution were added 0.1 M Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, and 150  $\mu$ l of 0.05% 2-ME, and then incubated at 30°C for 10 minutes. Then 5  $\mu$ l of 4.66 mM aureusidin and 50  $\mu$ l of 5 mM UDP-glucose were added thereto, and was allowed to react at 30°C for 1 hour. After the reaction was stopped by adding 200  $\mu$ l of 90% acetonitrile containing 5% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), it was centrifuged at 15,000 rpm and 4°C for 3 minutes. The supernatant thus obtained was filtered (pore size 0.45  $\mu$ m, 4 mm Millex-LH, Millipore) to remove insoluble substances. The filtrate was analyzed by high performance liquid chromatography.

The analytical condition was as follows: The column used was Asahipak-ODP-50 (4.6 mm  $\phi$   $\times$  250 mm, Showa Denko). The mobile phase comprised water containing 0.1% TFA as solution A and 90% CH<sub>3</sub>CN containing 0.1% TFA as solution B. After a linear gradient from 20% solution B to 100% solution B for 20 minutes, 100% solution B was retained for 5 minutes. The flow rate was 0.6 ml/min. Detection used A380 nm, and an absorption spectrum at 250-400 nm using Shimadzu PDA detector SPD-M6A.

For a reaction of the crude extract of E. coli cells in which pESBGT-1 was expressed, new substances were detected that eluted at 9.7, 12.0, and 13.1 minutes in addition to the substrate aureusidin (retention time 18.1



minutes). Since they were not detected in a reaction of the crude extract similarly prepared from E. coli cells in which the pET-3a vector was expressed, they were considered to be products resulting from the protein derived from pESBGT-1. The substance that eluted at 12.0 minutes among the products had the same retention time and the same absorption spectrum as that of aureusidin 6-glycoside. Other products also are considered to be aureusidin glycosides based on the absorption spectra.

For naringenin and luteolin, the enzymatic activity was determined as follows.

To 20  $\mu$ l of the crude enzyme solution were added 25  $\mu$ l of 0.1 M citric acid-phosphate buffer, pH 6.5, 5  $\mu$ l each of 5  $\mu$ M substrate, and 25  $\mu$ l of 5 mM UDP-glucose in a total volume of 250  $\mu$ l, and then incubated at 30°C for 30 minutes. After the reaction was stopped by adding 200  $\mu$ l of 90% acetonitrile containing 5% TFA, it was centrifuged at 15,000 rpm and 4°C for 3 minutes. The supernatant thus obtained was filtered (pore size 0.45  $\mu$ m, 4 mm Millex-LH, Millipore) to remove insoluble substances. The filtrate was analyzed by high performance liquid chromatography.

The analytical condition for naringenin was follows: The column used was YMC J's sphere ODS-M80 (4.6 mm  $\phi$   $\times$  150 mm, YMC). The mobile phase comprised water containing 0.1% TFA as solution A and 90% CH<sub>3</sub>CN containing 0.1% TFA as solution B. After a linear gradient from 20% solution B to 80% solution B for 10 minutes, 80% solution B was retained for 5 minutes. The flow rate was 0.6 ml/min. Detection used A290 nm, and an absorption spectrum at 250-400 nm using Shimadzu PDA detector SPD-M6A.

The analytical condition for luteolin was as follows: The column used was YMC J's sphere ODS-M80 (4.6 mm  $\phi$   $\times$  150 mm, YMC). The mobile phase comprised water

containing 0.1% TFA as solution A and 90% CH<sub>3</sub>CN containing 0.1% TFA as solution B. After a linear gradient from 20% solution B to 80% solution B for 10 minutes, 80% solution B was retained for 5 minutes. The flow rate was 0.6 ml/min. Detection used A330 nm, and an absorption spectrum at 250-400 nm using Shimadzu PDA detector SPD-M6A.

When naringenin was used as the substrate, a new substance was detected that eluted at 6.9 minutes in addition to the naringenin (retention time 9.7 minutes). The substance was not detected in a reaction of the crude extract similarly prepared from E. coli in which the pET-3a vector was expressed. It had the same retention time as naringenin 7-glycoside but a different absorption spectrum, suggesting that a plurality of naringenin glycosides are present each at a trace amount.

When luteolin was used as the substrate, new substances were detected that eluted at 6.4, 7.7, and 8.0 minutes that were not be detected in a reaction of the crude extract similarly prepared from E. coli in which the pET-3a vector was expressed. The substance that eluted at 6.4 minutes among them had the same retention time as luteolin 7-glycoside.

The above result indicated that the pS.b UFGT1 gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis is an enzyme that can glycosilate aureusidin. It was also demonstrated that it can glycosilate luteolin but had very little effect on naringenin.

It has already been shown that baicalein can be glycosilated at the position 7. After the reaction is complete for baicalein, almost 100% is detected as a 7 glycoside, but no reaction occurred to naringenin indicating that the expression product of the Scutellaria baicalensis-derived pS.b UFGT1 gene has a high substrate specificity.

Example 2. Construction of cDNA library of snapdragon petals

A cDNA library of the petals was prepared as follows: From 5 g of fresh petals of a yellow snapdragon (yellow butterfly), RNA was obtained using a method of employing guanidine thiocyanate and cesium chloride as described in detail in Method in Molecular Biology, Vol. 2, (Humana Press Inc., 1984) by R. McGookin et al., and polyA+RNA was purified therefrom using Oligotex dT30 (Nippon Roche). From the polyA+RNA, cDNA library was constructed using the cDNA synthesis kit, Uni-XR vector kit (Stratagene). The library obtained comprised  $1.6 \times 10^5$  plaque forming units (pfu).

Example 3. Collection of the full-length aurone glycosyl transferase

The snapdragon cDNA library obtained in Example 2 was screened using the full-length pS.b UFGT1, a hairy root-derived flavonoid-7-glycosyl transferase. The library was screened using a non-radio system DNA detection kit (Boehringer). Hybridization was carried out overnight at 37°C. Washing filter was carried out at 5 × SSC, 0.1% SDS and 50°C for 30 minutes. About 200,000 plaques were screened to finally obtain 2 clones. The method was based on Molecular Cloning (Sambrook et al., Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory Press, 1989).

Since the two clones encoded the sequences having the completely same length, one was designated as pAmGT1 and nucleotide sequence was determined.

The nucleotide sequence was determined by synthesizing an oligonucleotide primer and using DNA Sequencer model 310 (Applied Biosystems). The nucleotide sequence and the deduced amino acid sequence are shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in the sequence listing.

pAmGT1 contained a 1751 bp gene AmGT1 encoding a protein of a molecular weight 53.9 kDa comprising 481 amino acids.

Example 4. Expression of the AmGT1 cDNA in E. coli

The expression of the AmGT1 cDNA was carried out

using the pET System (Stratagene).

First, in order to introduce NdeI and BamHI sites, the following 2 primers pETAmGT5' and pETAmGT3' were used in a PCR reaction.

5           pETAmGT5': 5'-ATA ACT ACA TAT GGG AAA ACT TCA C-3'  
(SEQ ID NO: 5)

          pETAmGT3': 5'-GAA CAG GAT CCA CAC ACT AGA AGT CA-3'  
(SEQ ID NO: 6)

          The PCR reaction mixture was prepared in a total  
10       volume of 100 µl comprising 100 ng of pAmGT1, the 1 × the  
cloned Pfu DNA polymerase reaction buffer (Stratagene),  
0.2 mM dNTPs, 0.5 pmol/µl each of the primers, and 5.0 U  
of the cloned Pfu DNA polymerase. The reaction was  
carried out, after 45 seconds at 95°C, for 25 cycles with  
15       one cycle comprising 95°C for 45 seconds, 50°C for 45  
seconds, and 72°C for 2 minutes, and was finally treated  
at 72°C for 10 minutes. The PCR product obtained was  
subcloned into the pCR2.1 TOPO vector (INVITROGEN).

          Some of the clones of the plasmid pTOPO-ETAmGT1 thus  
20       obtained were reacted using M13 Reverse Primer and M13(-  
20) primer (TOYOBO) using ABI PRISM™ BigDye™ Terminator  
Cycle Sequencing Ready Reaction Kit (Applied Biosystems),  
and the nucleotide sequences on both ends were confirmed  
using DNA Sequencer model 310 (Applied Biosystems). An  
25       about 2.7 Kb fragment obtained by digesting pTOPO-ETAmGT1  
with NdeI, BamHI and ScaI was ligated to the NdeI and  
BamHI sites of the pET-3a vector (Stratagene) to obtain  
plasmid pETAmGT1 (Figure 2). Using pETAmGT1, it was  
transformed into Epicurian Coli BL21 (DE3) (Stratagene).

30       Example 5. Measurement of the glycosyl transferase  
          activity of the AmGT1 cDNA recombinant  
          protein

          The transformant obtained in Example 4 was cultured,  
extracted and the enzymatic activity was measured as in  
35       Example 1.

          When aureusidin was used as the substrate, new

substances were detected that eluted at 10.98, 11.27, and 11.85 minutes in addition to aureusidin (retention time 16.6 minutes). Since the substances were not detected in a reaction of the crude extract similarly prepared from E. coli in which the pET-3a vector was expressed, they were believed to be products that resulted from pESBGT-1-derived protein.

Among the products, the substance that eluted at 10.98 minutes had the same retention time as aureusidin 6-glycoside, and the one that eluted at 11.85 minutes had the same retention time as aureusidin 4-glycoside.

The above results indicated that AmGT1 can transfer a glycosyl group to the positions 6 and 4 of aureusidin. The substance that eluted at 11.27 minutes is also believed to be aureusidin glycoside based on the absorption spectra.

Example 6. Preparation of the gene of aurone glycosyl transferase derived from petunias

A cDNA library obtained from petals of a petunia variety "Old Glory Blue" (Nature 366: 276-279, 1993) was screened with the full-length AmGT1 gene obtained in Example 3. The library was screened using a non-radio system DNA detection kit (Boehringer). Hybridization was carried out overnight at 37°C. Washing filter was carried out at 5 × SSC, 0.1% SDS, and 50°C for 30 minutes. About 200,000 plaques were screened to finally obtain 2 clones. The method was based on Molecular Cloning (Sambrook et al., Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory Press, 1989).

The two clones were designated as pPh7GTa and pPh7GTb, respectively, and the nucleotide sequences were determined. The nucleotide sequence was determined by synthesizing an oligonucleotide primer and using DNA Sequencer model 310 (Applied Biosystems). The nucleotide sequence at the insertion site of pPh7GTa and the deduced amino acid sequence are shown in SEQ ID NO: 7 and 8, respectively, and the nucleotide sequence at the

insertion site of pPh7GTb and the deduced amino acid sequence are shown in SEQ ID NO: 9 and 10, respectively.

Example 7. Structural analysis of the gene of aurone glycosyl transferase

5 pPh7GTa contained a 1750 bp gene, Ph7GTa, encoding a protein comprising 488 amino acids, and pPh7GTb contained a 1669 bp gene, Ph7GTb, encoding a protein comprising 476 amino acids. Using the deduced amino acid sequences obtained, they were compared with the AmGT1 gene derived from Snapdragon obtained Example 3 and the pS.b UFGT1 gene derived from Scutellaria baicalensis. Accordingly, it was found that Ph7GTa had a 50% and 51% homology with AmGT1 and pS.b UFGT1, respectively. When compared with IS5a and IS10a derived from tobaccos that are already reported to be genes having a high homology with pS.b UFGT1, they have exhibited homologies of 59% and 60%, respectively. Similarly, Ph7GTb had homologies of 59% and 56% with AmGT1 and pS.b UFGT1, respectively, and homologies of 88% and 86% with IS5a and IS10a derived from tobaccos, respectively.

On the other hand, they only had a homology of about 20 to 25% with the gene of an enzyme (Tanaka et al. (1996) Plant Cell and Physiology 37: 711-716; Frutek D, Schiefelbein JW, Johnston F, Nelson Jr. OE (1988) Plant Molecular Biology 11: 473-481, Wise RP, Rohde W, Salamini F. (1990) Plant Molecular Biology 14: 277-279) that glycosylates the position 3 of flavonoids and the gene of an enzyme (WO 99/05287) that glycosylates the position 5 of flavonoids, and therefore, it was estimated that both of Ph7GTa and Ph7GTb are the genes of flavonoid-7-glycosyl transferase as are pS.b UFGT1 and AmGT1.

Example 8. Expression of Ph7GTa and Ph7GTb cDNA in E. coli

The Ph7GTa gene was expressed using the pET System (Stratagene). First, in order to introduce NdeI and BamHI sites, the following 2 primers pETPh7GTa5' [5'-ATA ACT ACA TAT GGC TAT TCC CAC A-3' (SEQ ID NO: 11)] and

pETPh7GTa3' [5'-GAA CAG GAT CCT AAA AGG ACC T-3' (SEQ ID NO: 12)] were used in a PCR reaction.

5 The PCR reaction mixture was prepared in a total volume of 100 µl comprising 100 ng of pAmGT1, the 1 × the cloned Pfu DNA polymerase reaction buffer (Stratagene), 0.2 mM dNTPs, 0.5 pmol/µl each of the primers, and 5.0 Units of the cloned Pfu DNA polymerase. The reaction was carried out, after 45 seconds at 95°C, for 25 cycles with one cycle comprising 95°C for 45 seconds, 50°C for 45  
10 seconds, and 72°C for 2 minutes, and was finally treated at 72°C for 10 minutes. The PCR product obtained was subcloned into the pCR2.1 TOPO vector (INVITROGEN). Some of the clones of the plasmid pTOPO-ETPh7GTa thus obtained were reacted using ABI PRISM™ BigDye™ Terminator Cycle  
15 Sequencing Ready Reaction Kit (Applied Biosystems), and the entire nucleotide sequences were confirmed using DNA Sequencer model 310 (Applied Biosystems). An about 1.7 Kb fragment obtained by digesting pTOPO-ETPh7GTa with NdeI and BamHI was ligated to the NdeI and BamHI sites of  
20 the pET-3a vector (Stratagene) to obtain plasmid pETPhGTa.

Using pETPhGTa, it was transformed into Epicurian Coli BL21 (DE3) (Stratagene).

For Ph7GTb also, in order to introduce NdeI and  
25 BamHI sites, the following 2 primers pETPh7GTb5' [5'-ATA ACT ACA TAT GGG TCA GCT CCA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 13)] and pETPh7GTb3' [5'-CTC GTA CCA TGG AAA ACT ATT CT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 14)] were used in a PCR reaction and then plasmid pETPhGTb was obtained.

30 Example 9. Measurement of the glycosyl transferase activity of Ph7GTa, Ph7GTb cDNA recombinant proteins

The transformants obtained in Example 8 were cultured, extracted and the enzymatic activity was  
35 measured as in Example 1. The enzymatic activity was measured using aureusidin as the substrate. The

enzymatic activity was measured as described in Example 1. For Ph7GTa and Ph7GTb, a peak was obtained that had the same retention time and the same spectrum as aureusidin 6-glycoside as a reaction product. For Ph7GTa also, one peak, that is estimated to be an aurone glycoside from the absorption spectrum, was obtained, and for Ph7GTb two such peaks were obtained.

The foregoing results revealed that Ph7GTa and Ph7GTb encode enzymes having an activity of glycosilating aureusidin.

#### Industrial Applicability

Using the gene expression products obtained in the present invention, it was possible to glycosilate aurones. This enabled a stable expression of aurones in plant cells.



CLAIMS

1. A gene encoding a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

5 2. The gene according to claim 1 encoding a protein that has an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, and 10, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

10 3. The gene according to claim 1 encoding a protein that has an amino acid sequence modified by the addition, deletion and/or substitution with other amino acids of one or a plurality of amino acids in the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

15 4. The gene according to claim 1 that hybridizes to a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 or a portion thereof under a stringent condition, and that encodes a protein having an activity of  
20 transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

5. A vector comprising a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4.

6. A host transformed with a vector according to claim 5.

25 7. A protein encoded by a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4.

30 8. A method of producing a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, said method comprising culturing, cultivating, or breeding a host according to claim 6 and recovering said protein from said host.

35 9. A plant into which a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4 has been introduced, and a progeny and a tissue thereof having the same property as said plant.

10. A cut flower of the plant according to claim 9, or a progeny thereof having the same property as said

plant.

11. A method of stabilizing aurones which method  
comprises allowing the protein according to claim 7 to  
act on aurones thereby to transfer a glycosyl group to  
5 aurones.

12. A method of stabilizing aurones in the plant  
body which method comprises introducing the gene  
according to any one of the claims 1-4 into the plant  
body, allowing said gene to be expressed, and using the  
10 protein produced therein to transfer a glycosyl group to  
aurones in the plant body.

ABSTRACT

There is provided a gene encoding a protein derived from, for example, snapdragons and petunias, said protein  
5 having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:  
2, 8, and 10, and having an activity of transferring a  
glycosyl group to aurones, and a method of producing said  
protein using said gene. By introducing this gene into  
plants that do not have said gene, a yellow pigment  
10 aurone can be stabilized and plants having yellow flowers  
can be obtained.

Fig. 1

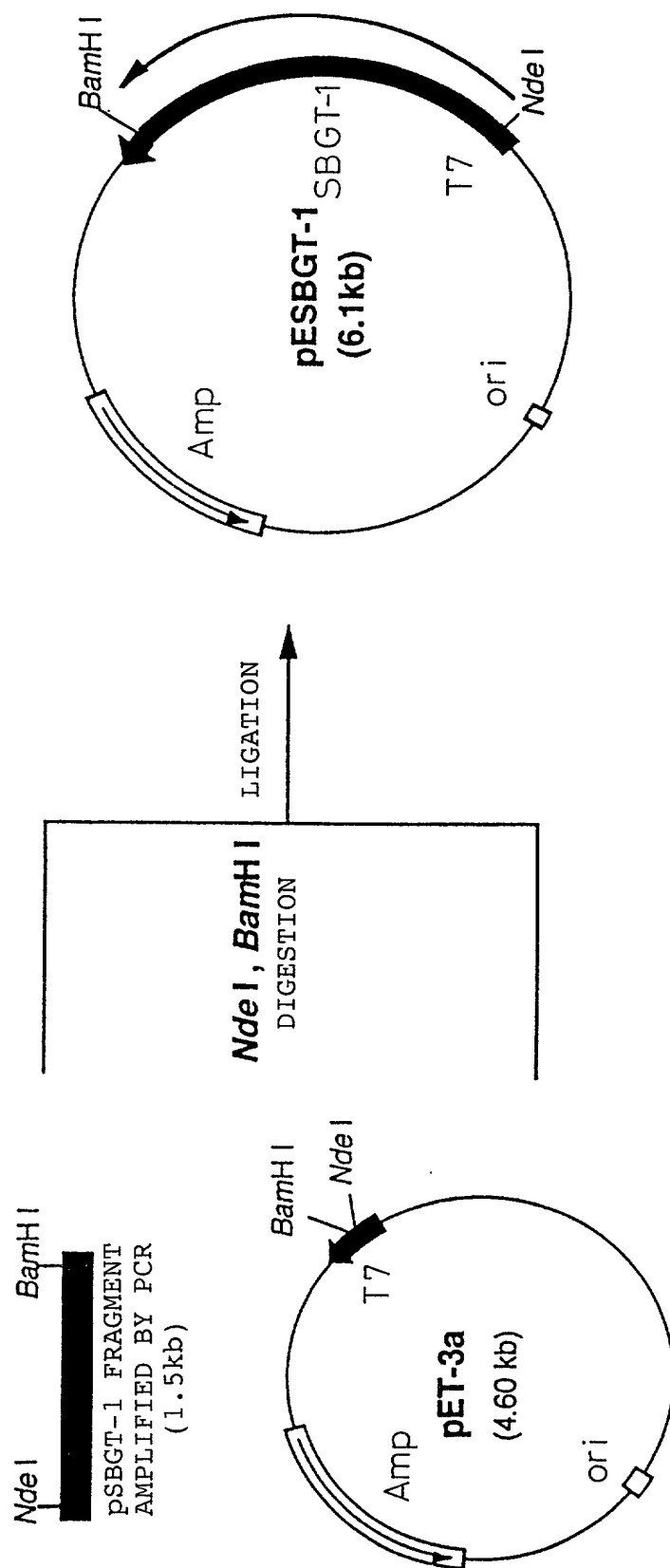
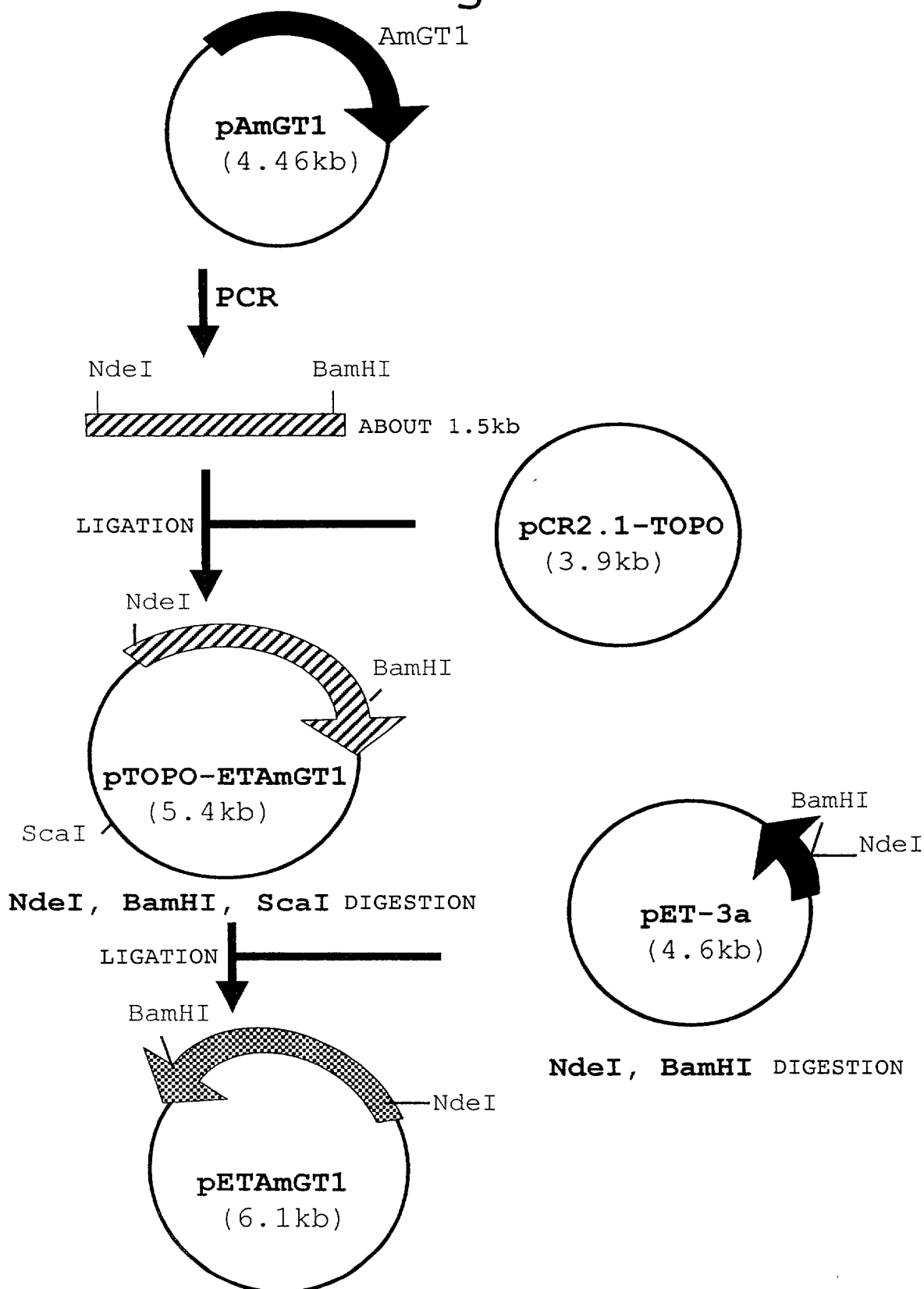


Fig.2



## Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

## 特許出願宣言書及び委任状

## Japanese Language Declaration

## 日本語宣言書

下記の氏名の発明者として、私は以下の通り宣言します。

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

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My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

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I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN HAVING

A GLYCOSYL TRANSFERASE

ACTIVITY TO AURONES

上記発明の明細書（下記の欄でx印がついていない場合は、本書に添付）は、

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☐ was filed on February 16, 2000  
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PCT/JP00/00876 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
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### Prior Foreign Application(s)

外国での先行出願

11-36801 (Pat. Appln.) Japan

(Number)  
(番号)

(Country)  
(国名)

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Priority Not Claimed

優先権主張なし

16/February/1999

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

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(Filing Date)  
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s), or 366(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of application.

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第四共同発明者		Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any <u>4-00 Takaaki Kusumi</u>	
第四共同発明者	日付	Fourth inventor's signature <u>久住 高章</u>	Date October 10, 2000
住 所		Residence <u>Suita-shi, Osaka, Japan J P X</u>	
国 籍		Citizenship Japanese	
私書箱		Post Office Address 2-12-21-402, Yamate-cho, Suita-shi,	
		Osaka 564-0073, Japan	

第五共同発明者		Full name of fifth joint inventor, if any <u>5-00 Takafumi Yoshikawa</u>	
第五共同発明者	日付	Fifth inventor's signature <u>吉川 孝文</u>	Date October 10, 2000
住 所		Residence <u>Chigasaki-shi, Kanagawa, Japan J P X</u>	
国 籍		Citizenship Japanese	
私書箱		Post Office Address 6-31, Heiwa-cho, Chigasaki-shi,	
		Kanagawa 253-0024, Japan	
第六共同発明者		Full name of sixth joint inventor, if any	
第六共同発明者	日付	Sixth inventor's signature	Date
住 所		Residence	
国 籍		Citizenship	
私書箱		Post Office Address	

(第七以降の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をすること)

(Supply similar information and signature for seventh and subsequent joint inventors.)

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> SUNTORY LIMITED

<120> Gene coding for a protein having glycosyl transferase  
to aurone

<160> 6

<210> 1

<211> 1751

<212> DNA

<213> Antirrhinum majus

<220>

<223> Nucleotide sequence coding for a protein having  
glycosyl transferase to aurone

<400> 1

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                1             5             10
gct cat ggt cac atg atc cca atg ttg gac atg gcc aag ctc ttt acc 159
Ala His Gly His Met Ile Pro Met Leu Asp Met Ala Lys Leu Phe Thr
          15             20             25
tca aga ggc ata caa aca aca atc att tcg act ctc gcc ttc gct gat 207
Ser Arg Gly Ile Gln Thr Thr Ile Ile Ser Thr Leu Ala Phe Ala Asp
          30             35             40
ccg ata aac aaa gct cgt gat tcg ggc ctc gat att gga cta agc atc 255
Pro Ile Asn Lys Ala Arg Asp Ser Gly Leu Asp Ile Gly Leu Ser Ile
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ctc aaa ttc cca cca gaa gga tca gga ata cca gat cac atg gtg agc 303
Leu Lys Phe Pro Pro Glu Gly Ser Gly Ile Pro Asp His Met Val Ser
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gtc tta tta caa gag cca gtt gag aag ctt atc gaa gaa cta aag ctc	399
Val Leu Leu Gln Glu Pro Val Glu Lys Leu Ile Glu Glu Leu Lys Leu	
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gac tgt ctc gtt tcc gac atg ttc ttg cct tgg aca gtc gat tgt gcg	447
Asp Cys Leu Val Ser Asp Met Phe Leu Pro Trp Thr Val Asp Cys Ala	
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Leu Lys Phe Val Arg Thr Gln Val Ala Pro Phe Gln Leu Ala Glu Thr	
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Arg Ser Tyr Gly Val Val Val Asn Ser Phe Tyr Glu Leu Glu Ser Thr	
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Tyr Val Asp Tyr Tyr Arg Glu Val Leu Gly Arg Lys Ser Trp Asn Ile	
225 230 235	
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Gly Pro Leu Leu Leu Ser Asn Asn Gly Asn Glu Glu Lys Val Gln Arg	
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Gly Lys Glu Ser Ala Ile Gly Glu His Glu Cys Leu Ala Trp Leu Asn	
255 260 265	

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Ser Gly Gln Glu Phe Ile Trp Val Val Lys Lys Ala Lys Asn Glu Glu	
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Ser Glu Gly Val Ser Arg Glu Ala Val Thr Asn Ala Val Gln Arg Val	
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Met Val Gly Glu Asn Ala Ser Glu Met Arg Lys Arg Ala Lys Tyr Tyr	
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Lys Glu Met Ala Arg Arg Ala Val Glu Glu Gly Gly Ser Ser Tyr Asn	
445 450 455 460	

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 Lys Gln Asp Leu Asn  
                     480  
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<211> 481

<212> PRT

<213> Antirrhinum majus

<220>

<223> Amino acid sequence of a protein having glycosyl transferase to aurone

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Gln	Thr	Thr	Ile	Ile	Ser	Thr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Ala	Asp	Pro	Ile	Asn	Lys
				35				40					45		
Ala	Arg	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu	Asp	Ile	Gly	Leu	Ser	Ile	Leu	Lys	Phe	Pro
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Pro	Glu	Gly	Ser	Gly	Ile	Pro	Asp	His	Met	Val	Ser	Leu	Asp	Leu	Val
				65				70					75		80
Thr	Glu	Asp	Trp	Leu	Pro	Lys	Phe	Val	Glu	Ser	Leu	Val	Leu	Leu	Gln
				85					90					95	
Glu	Pro	Val	Glu	Lys	Leu	Ile	Glu	Glu	Leu	Lys	Leu	Asp	Cys	Leu	Val
				100					105					110	
Ser	Asp	Met	Phe	Leu	Pro	Trp	Thr	Val	Asp	Cys	Ala	Ala	Lys	Phe	Gly
				115					120					125	

Ile	Pro	Arg	Leu	Val	Phe	His	Gly	Thr	Ser	Asn	Phe	Ala	Leu	Cys	Ala	130	135	140	
Ser	Glu	Gln	Met	Lys	Leu	His	Lys	Pro	Tyr	Lys	Asn	Val	Thr	Ser	Asp	145	150	155	160
Thr	Glu	Thr	Phe	Val	Ile	Pro	Asp	Phe	Pro	His	Glu	Leu	Lys	Phe	Val	165	170	175	
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Ser	Lys	Leu	Met	Lys	Gln	Met	Thr	Glu	Ser	Val	Gly	Arg	Ser	Tyr	Gly	195	200	205	
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Tyr	Arg	Glu	Val	Leu	Gly	Arg	Lys	Ser	Trp	Asn	Ile	Gly	Pro	Leu	Leu	225	230	235	240
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Ala	Ile	Gly	Glu	His	Glu	Cys	Leu	Ala	Trp	Leu	Asn	Ser	Lys	Lys	Gln	260	265	270	
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Ala	Gln	Leu	Arg	Glu	Thr	Ala	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Glu	Ser	Gly	Gln	Glu	290	295	300	
Phe	Ile	Trp	Val	Val	Lys	Lys	Ala	Lys	Asn	Glu	Glu	Glu	Gly	Lys	Gly	305	310	315	320
Lys	Glu	Glu	Trp	Leu	Pro	Glu	Asn	Phe	Glu	Glu	Arg	Val	Lys	Asp	Arg	325	330	335	
Gly	Leu	Ile	Ile	Arg	Gly	Trp	Ala	Pro	Gln	Leu	Leu	Ile	Leu	Asp	His	340	345	350	
Pro	Ala	Val	Gly	Ala	Phe	Val	Thr	His	Cys	Gly	Trp	Asn	Ser	Thr	Leu	355	360	365	
Glu	Gly	Ile	Cys	Ala	Gly	Val	Pro	Met	Val	Thr	Trp	Pro	Val	Phe	Ala	370	375	380	
Glu	Gln	Phe	Phe	Asn	Glu	Lys	Phe	Val	Thr	Glu	Val	Leu	Gly	Thr	Gly	385	390	395	400
Val	Ser	Val	Gly	Asn	Lys	Lys	Trp	Leu	Arg	Ala	Ala	Ser	Glu	Gly	Val	405	410	415	
Ser	Arg	Glu	Ala	Val	Thr	Asn	Ala	Val	Gln	Arg	Val	Met	Val	Gly	Glu	420	425	430	

Asn Ala Ser Glu Met Arg Lys Arg Ala Lys Tyr Tyr Lys Glu Met Ala  
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 Arg Arg Ala Val Glu Glu Gly Gly Ser Ser Tyr Asn Gly Leu Asn Glu  
           450                          455                          460  
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25

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 cagaacagga tccacacgta attta

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<210> 7

<211> 1750

<212> DNA

<213> Petunia hybrida

<220>

<223> Nucleotide sequence coding for a protein having  
glycosyl transferase to aurone

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Met Ala Ile Pro Thr Val

1

5

caa cca cat ttt gtg ctg ctt cct ttc atg gca caa ggc cat aca aat 101

Gln Pro His Phe Val Leu Leu Pro Phe Met Ala Gln Gly His Thr Asn

10

15

20

ccc atg att gac atc gca cgc cta ttg gca caa cgc gga gtt ata atc 149

Pro Met Ile Asp Ile Ala Arg Leu Leu Ala Gln Arg Gly Val Ile Ile

25

30

35

acc att ctt act aca cac ttt aat gcc act aga ttc aag aca gtc gtt 197

Thr Ile Leu Thr Thr His Phe Asn Ala Thr Arg Phe Lys Thr Val Val

40

45

50



gat cgg gca gta gtg gca gca cta aag att cag gta gtt cac ctc tat	245
Asp Arg Ala Val Val Ala Ala Leu Lys Ile Gln Val Val His Leu Tyr	
55 60 65 70	
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Phe Pro Ser Leu Glu Ala Gly Leu Pro Glu Gly Cys Glu Ala Phe Asp	
75 80 85	
atg ctt cct tca atg gat ttc gca atg aaa ttc ttt gat gct acc agt	341
Met Leu Pro Ser Met Asp Phe Ala Met Lys Phe Phe Asp Ala Thr Ser	
90 95 100	
agg ctt caa cca caa gtg gaa gaa atg ctt cat gaa ctg caa ccg tca	389
Arg Leu Gln Pro Gln Val Glu Glu Met Leu His Glu Leu Gln Pro Ser	
105 110 115	
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155 160 165	
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185 190 195	
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265 270 275	
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Ala Asn Ser Val Leu Phe Val Cys Leu Gly Ser Leu Ser Arg Leu Pro	
280 285 290	
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Thr Pro Gln Met Ile Glu Leu Gly Leu Gly Leu Glu Ser Ser Lys Arg	
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315 320 325	
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gga att gag aat cct gtt atg ttt gga gag gaa gaa aaa gtt gga gca	1301
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410 415 420	
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425 430 435	

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 gaa aag gca aag agg gct atg gag gaa ggg ggt tcc tca cac ttc aac 1445  
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 455 460 465 470  
 ttg aca cag ttg att caa gat gtc act gag caa gca aat att tta aaa 1493  
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 475 480 485  
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<211> 488

<212> PRT

<213> *Petunia hybrida*

<220>

<223> Amino acid sequence of a protein having glycosyl transferase to aurone

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 Gln Arg Gly Val Ile Ile Thr Ile Leu Thr Thr His Phe Asn Ala Thr  
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 Arg Phe Lys Thr Val Val Asp Arg Ala Val Val Ala Ala Leu Lys Ile  
 50 55 60  
 Gln Val Val His Leu Tyr Phe Pro Ser Leu Glu Ala Gly Leu Pro Glu  
 65 70 75 80  
 Gly Cys Glu Ala Phe Asp Met Leu Pro Ser Met Asp Phe Ala Met Lys  
 85 90 95

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His	Glu	Leu	Gln	Pro	Ser	Pro	Ser	Cys	Ile	Ile	Ser	Asp	Met	Cys	Phe
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Pro	Trp	Thr	Thr	Asn	Val	Ala	Gln	Lys	Phe	Asn	Ile	Pro	Arg	Leu	Val
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Asp	Trp	Lys	Glu	Leu	Glu	Ser	Asp	Ile	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Gln	Val	Pro	Gly
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Leu	His	Asp	Lys	Ile	Glu	Leu	Asn	Lys	Ala	Gln	Leu	Ser	Asn	Ile	Val
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Ala	Glu	Glu	Glu	Ala	Tyr	Gly	Ile	Val	Ala	Asn	Ser	Phe	Glu	Glu	Leu
	210					215					220				
Glu	Pro	Glu	Tyr	Val	Lys	Gly	Leu	Glu	Lys	Ala	Lys	Gly	Leu	Lys	Ile
225				230						235				240	
Trp	Pro	Ile	Gly	Pro	Val	Ser	Leu	Cys	Asn	Lys	Glu	Lys	Gln	Asp	Lys
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Ala	Glu	Arg	Gly	Asn	Lys	Ala	Ser	Ile	Asp	Glu	His	Gln	Cys	Leu	Lys
		260						265					270		
Trp	Leu	Asp	Ser	Trp	Gly	Ala	Asn	Ser	Val	Leu	Phe	Val	Cys	Leu	Gly
		275					280						285		
Ser	Leu	Ser	Arg	Leu	Pro	Thr	Pro	Gln	Met	Ile	Glu	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gly
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Leu	Glu	Ser	Ser	Lys	Arg	Pro	Phe	Ile	Trp	Val	Val	Arg	His	Lys	Ser
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Asp	Glu	Phe	Lys	Ser	Trp	Leu	Val	Glu	Glu	Asn	Phe	Glu	Glu	Arg	Val
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Lys	Gly	Gln	Gly	Leu	Leu	Ile	His	Gly	Trp	Ala	Pro	Gln	Val	Leu	Ile
		340						345					350		
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Ser	Ser	Val	Glu	Gly	Ile	Ser	Ala	Gly	Val	Pro	Met	Ile	Thr	Trp	Pro
	370					375					380				
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385				390						395				400	

Lys	Thr	Gly	Val	Lys	Ala	Gly	Ile	Glu	Asn	Pro	Val	Met	Phe	Gly	Glu
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Ile	Glu	Arg	Val	Met	Gly	Glu	Glu	Glu	Glu	Ala	Glu	Met	Arg	Arg	Lys
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Arg	Ala	Lys	Glu	Leu	Gly	Glu	Lys	Ala	Lys	Arg	Ala	Met	Glu	Glu	Gly
				450				455				460			
Gly	Ser	Ser	His	Phe	Asn	Leu	Thr	Gln	Leu	Ile	Gln	Asp	Val	Thr	Glu
465				470				475				480			
Gln	Ala	Asn	Ile	Leu	Lys	Ser	Ile								
				485											

<210> 9

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Ile Glu Arg Asn Lys His Glu Ile Asp Ile Arg Leu Ile Lys Phe Gln	
50 55 60 65	
gct gtt gaa aat ggc ttg cct gaa ggt tgt gag cgt att gat ctt atc	356
Ala Val Glu Asn Gly Leu Pro Glu Gly Cys Glu Arg Ile Asp Leu Ile	
70 75 80	
cct tct gat gac aag ctt tcc aat ttt ttg aaa gct gca gct atg atg	404
Pro Ser Asp Asp Lys Leu Ser Asn Phe Leu Lys Ala Ala Ala Met Met	
85 90 95	
caa gaa cca ctt gag cag ctt att gaa gaa tgt cat ccc aat tgt ctt	452
Gln Glu Pro Leu Glu Gln Leu Ile Glu Glu Cys His Pro Asn Cys Leu	
100 105 110	
gtt tct gat atg ttc ctt cct tgg act act gat act gca gcc aag ttt	500
Val Ser Asp Met Phe Leu Pro Trp Thr Thr Asp Thr Ala Ala Lys Phe	
115 120 125	
aac att cca aga ata gtt ttc cat ggt acg agt ttc ttt gca ctt tgt	548
Asn Ile Pro Arg Ile Val Phe His Gly Thr Ser Phe Phe Ala Leu Cys	
130 135 140 145	
gta gag aat agt aac agg act aat aag cca ttc aag aac gtc tct tct	596
Val Glu Asn Ser Asn Arg Thr Asn Lys Pro Phe Lys Asn Val Ser Ser	
150 155 160	
gat tct gaa act ttt gtt gta cca aat ttg cct cac gaa atc agg cta	644
Asp Ser Glu Thr Phe Val Val Pro Asn Leu Pro His Glu Ile Arg Leu	
165 170 175	
act aga aca caa ttg tct ccg ttt gag caa tca ttg gaa gag aca cca	692
Thr Arg Thr Gln Leu Ser Pro Phe Glu Gln Ser Leu Glu Glu Thr Pro	
180 185 190	
atg tcc cga atg ata aaa gca gtt agg gaa tcg gac gcg aag agt tat	740
Met Ser Arg Met Ile Lys Ala Val Arg Glu Ser Asp Ala Lys Ser Tyr	
195 200 205	
gga gtt atc ttc aac agc ttc tat gag ctt gaa tca gat tat gtt gaa	788
Gly Val Ile Phe Asn Ser Phe Tyr Glu Leu Glu Ser Asp Tyr Val Glu	
210 215 220 225	
cat tat acc aag gtt ctt ggt aga aag tct tgg gct att ggc ccg ctt	836
His Tyr Thr Lys Val Leu Gly Arg Lys Ser Trp Ala Ile Gly Pro Leu	
230 235 240	

tct ttg tgc aat agg gac att gaa gat aaa gct gaa aga ggg aag att	884
Ser Leu Cys Asn Arg Asp Ile Glu Asp Lys Ala Glu Arg Gly Lys Ile	
245 250 255	
tcc tct att gat aaa cat gag tgt ttg aat tgg ott gat tca aag aaa	932
Ser Ser Ile Asp Lys His Glu Cys Leu Asn Trp Leu Asp Ser Lys Lys	
260 265 270	
cca agt tcc att gtt tat gtt tgc ttc ggg agc gta gca gat ttc act	980
Pro Ser Ser Ile Val Tyr Val Cys Phe Gly Ser Val Ala Asp Phe Thr	
275 280 285	
gca gca caa atg cgt gaa ctt gca ttg gga att gaa gca tct gga caa	1028
Ala Ala Gln Met Arg Glu Leu Ala Leu Gly Ile Glu Ala Ser Gly Gln	
290 295 300 305	
gaa ttc att tgg gct gtt aga aga ggc aaa gag gaa caa gac aat gaa	1076
Glu Phe Ile Trp Ala Val Arg Arg Gly Lys Glu Glu Gln Asp Asn Glu	
310 315 320	
gag tgg ttg cct gaa gga ttc gag gaa aga acg aaa gaa aaa ggt cta	1124
Glu Trp Leu Pro Glu Gly Phe Glu Glu Arg Thr Lys Glu Lys Gly Leu	
325 330 335	
att att aga gga tgg gcg ccc caa gtg cta att ctt gat cac caa gct	1172
Ile Ile Arg Gly Trp Ala Pro Gln Val Leu Ile Leu Asp His Gln Ala	
340 345 350	
gtg gga gct ttt gtc act cat tgt ggt tgg aat tca acg ctt gaa gga	1220
Val Gly Ala Phe Val Thr His Cys Gly Trp Asn Ser Thr Leu Glu Gly	
355 360 365	
gta tca gca ggg gtg cct atg gtg acc tgg cct gtg ttt gca gag caa	1268
Val Ser Ala Gly Val Pro Met Val Thr Trp Pro Val Phe Ala Glu Gln	
370 375 380 385	
ttt ttc aat gaa aag ttg gtg act gag gtt ttg aga act ggg gct ggt	1316
Phe Phe Asn Glu Lys Leu Val Thr Glu Val Leu Arg Thr Gly Ala Gly	
390 395 400	
gtt ggt tca atg caa tgg aaa aga tca gct agc gag gga gta aaa agg	1364
Val Gly Ser Met Gln Trp Lys Arg Ser Ala Ser Glu Gly Val Lys Arg	
405 410 415	
gaa gca ata gct aag gca ata aag aga gtc atg gtg agt gaa gaa gca	1412
Glu Ala Ile Ala Lys Ala Ile Lys Arg Val Met Val Ser Glu Glu Ala	
420 425 430	

gag gga ttc aga aac cga gct aaa gcc tac aaa gag atg gca aaa caa 1460  
 Glu Gly Phe Arg Asn Arg Ala Lys Ala Tyr Lys Glu Met Ala Lys Gln  
 435 440 445  
 gct att gaa gaa gga gga tct tct tac tct gga ttg act act ttg cta 1508  
 Ala Ile Glu Glu Gly Gly Ser Ser Tyr Ser Gly Leu Thr Thr Leu Leu  
 450 455 460 465  
 caa gat ata agt aca tat agt tcc aaa agt cat taactgcaca actaaaaaaaa 1561  
 Gln Asp Ile Ser Thr Tyr Ser Ser Lys Ser His  
 470 475  
 tgtagtggtt ttctatacaa tttttatgct tttttatgcg tgtactaatt taaacatgga 1621  
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<211> 476

<212> PRT

<213> Petunia hybrida

<220>

<223> Amino acid sequence of a protein having glycosyl transferase to aurone

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 Lys Ala Thr Ile Ile Thr Thr Pro Leu Asn Glu Ser Val Phe Ser Lys  
 35 40 45  
 Ala Ile Glu Arg Asn Lys His Glu Ile Asp Ile Arg Leu Ile Lys Phe  
 50 55 60  
 Gln Ala Val Glu Asn Gly Leu Pro Glu Gly Cys Glu Arg Ile Asp Leu  
 65 70 75 80  
 Ile Pro Ser Asp Asp Lys Leu Ser Asn Phe Leu Lys Ala Ala Ala Met  
 85 90 95  
 Met Gln Glu Pro Leu Glu Gln Leu Ile Glu Glu Cys His Pro Asn Cys  
 100 105 110  
 Leu Val Ser Asp Met Phe Leu Pro Trp Thr Thr Asp Thr Ala Ala Lys  
 115 120 125



Phe	Asn	Ile	Pro	Arg	Ile	Val	Phe	His	Gly	Thr	Ser	Phe	Phe	Ala	Leu
130						135					140				
Cys	Val	Glu	Asn	Ser	Asn	Arg	Thr	Asn	Lys	Pro	Phe	Lys	Asn	Val	Ser
145					150				155					160	
Ser	Asp	Ser	Glu	Thr	Phe	Val	Val	Pro	Asn	Leu	Pro	His	Glu	Ile	Arg
			165					170					175		
Leu	Thr	Arg	Thr	Gln	Leu	Ser	Pro	Phe	Glu	Gln	Ser	Leu	Glu	Glu	Thr
		180						185				190			
Pro	Met	Ser	Arg	Met	Ile	Lys	Ala	Val	Arg	Glu	Ser	Asp	Ala	Lys	Ser
	195					200						205			
Tyr	Gly	Val	Ile	Phe	Asn	Ser	Phe	Tyr	Glu	Leu	Glu	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Val
210					215					220					
Glu	His	Tyr	Thr	Lys	Val	Leu	Gly	Arg	Lys	Ser	Trp	Ala	Ile	Gly	Pro
225				230					235					240	
Leu	Ser	Leu	Cys	Asn	Arg	Asp	Ile	Glu	Asp	Lys	Ala	Glu	Arg	Gly	Lys
			245					250				255			
Ile	Ser	Ser	Ile	Asp	Lys	His	Glu	Cys	Leu	Asn	Trp	Leu	Asp	Ser	Lys
	260						265					270			
Lys	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ile	Val	Tyr	Val	Cys	Phe	Gly	Ser	Val	Ala	Asp	Phe
	275					280						285			
Thr	Ala	Ala	Gln	Met	Arg	Glu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gly	Ile	Glu	Ala	Ser	Gly
290					295						300				
Gln	Glu	Phe	Ile	Trp	Ala	Val	Arg	Arg	Gly	Lys	Glu	Glu	Gln	Asp	Asn
305				310					315					320	
Glu	Glu	Trp	Leu	Pro	Glu	Gly	Phe	Glu	Glu	Arg	Thr	Lys	Glu	Lys	Gly
			325					330					335		
Leu	Ile	Ile	Arg	Gly	Trp	Ala	Pro	Gln	Val	Leu	Ile	Leu	Asp	His	Gln
		340					345					350			
Ala	Val	Gly	Ala	Phe	Val	Thr	His	Cys	Gly	Trp	Asn	Ser	Thr	Leu	Glu
	355					360					365				
Gly	Val	Ser	Ala	Gly	Val	Pro	Met	Val	Thr	Trp	Pro	Val	Phe	Ala	Glu
370					375						380				
Gln	Phe	Phe	Asn	Glu	Lys	Leu	Val	Thr	Glu	Val	Leu	Arg	Thr	Gly	Ala
385				390					395					400	
Gly	Val	Gly	Ser	Met	Gln	Trp	Lys	Arg	Ser	Ala	Ser	Glu	Gly	Val	Lys
			405					410					415		
Arg	Glu	Ala	Ile	Ala	Lys	Ala	Ile	Lys	Arg	Val	Met	Val	Ser	Glu	Glu
		420						425					430		

Ala Glu Gly Phe Arg Asn Arg Ala Lys Ala Tyr Lys Glu Met Ala Lys  
435 440 445  
Gln Ala Ile Glu Glu Gly Gly Ser Ser Tyr Ser Gly Leu Thr Thr Leu  
450 455 460  
Leu Gln Asp Ile Ser Thr Tyr Ser Ser Lys Ser His  
465 470 475

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<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<400> 11

ataactacat atggctattc ccaca

25

<210> 12

<211> 22

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> Primer

<400> 12

gaacaggatc ctaaaaggac ct

22

<210> 13

<211> 24

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> Primer

<400> 14

ctcgtaccat ggaaaactat tct

23